



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES
SUZANNE ORR MLA (CHAIR), CANDICE BURCH MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), JAMES MILLIGAN MLA

Inquiry into referred 2017–18 Annual and Financial Reports
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
13 November 2018

Asked by MS LEE

In relation to: Catchment licenses and limits

MS LEE: Just in terms of—so, who typically requires a license, like, what are they usually for?

Ms Sargent: So under ops—sorry, are you referring back to water?

MS LEE: Yes, yes. A supplementary, yes.

Ms Sargent: Sorry, who typically? So, on page—there is a—on page 352, there is a map of, I suppose if you like, the percentage of the water. So, if you like—so Icon Water has a license to extract water; golf courses, Canturf, the National Capital Authority, horticulture, Transport Canberra City Services for ovals and parks, I just do not know how many. And then you have small businesses, there are backyard bores, farms and schools. So there is a whole gamut of activities that have licences to extract water.

MS LEE: Where is the water allowed to be taken from? Like, there must be obviously a limit on, is there a map for that as well?

Ms Sargent: Yes. There are a number of catchments identified and there is an amount, there is a sustainable diversion limit for each catchment identified so we do not over extract the water because we need to make sure that we have enough water to maintain our environmental health but also to supply, in particular drinking water, to the community.

MS LEE: Is that information publicly available? Is that on the website somewhere?

Ms Sargent: In terms of the licenses?

MS LEE: In terms of what the limits are in terms of the catchments and that type of thing.

Ms Sargent: We can give that to you, yes.

Gordon Ramsay MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

The ACT Water Sharing Plan is located on the legislation register as two disallowable instruments. The first instrument sets out the Water Management Areas (catchments) while the second details the volume of water available in each water management area, the volume set aside for the environment, and the volume available for extraction. The map of catchments can be found at <https://www.legislation.act.gov.au/View/di/2007-193/current/PDF/2007-193.PDF> and the limits of water in each catchment are listed at <https://www.legislation.act.gov.au/View/di/2007-191/current/PDF/2007-191.PDF>.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment and Transport and City Services

Signature:



Date: 21/1/15

By the Minister for Business and Regulatory Services, Gordon Ramsay MLA